

“(i) specialists in statistics, evaluation, research, and assessment;

“(ii) education practitioners, including teachers, principals, and local and State superintendents; and

“(iii) other individuals with technical expertise who would contribute to the overall rigor and quality of the program evaluation.

“(B) LIMITATIONS.—In appointing members of the Review Panel under this subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall ensure that—

“(i) in order to ensure diversity, a majority of the number of individuals appointed under subparagraph (A)(i) represent disciplines or programs outside the field of education; and

“(ii) the total number of the individuals appointed under subparagraph (A)(ii) or (A)(iii) does not exceed 1/3 of the total number of the individuals appointed under this paragraph.

“(3) FUNCTIONS.—The Review Panel shall consult with and advise the Secretary—

“(A) to ensure that the assessment conducted under subsection (a) and the study conducted under subsection (c)—

“(i) adhere to the highest possible standards of quality with respect to research design, statistical analysis, and the dissemination of findings; and

“(ii) use valid and reliable measures to document program implementation and impacts; and

“(B) to ensure—

“(i) that the final report described in subsection (a)(5)(B) is reviewed not later than 120 days after its completion by not less than 2 independent experts in program evaluation;

“(ii) that such experts evaluate and comment on the degree to which the report complies with subsection (a); and

“(iii) that the comments of such experts are transmitted with the report under subsection (a)(5)(B).”.

#### SEC. 152. DEMONSTRATIONS OF INNOVATIVE PRACTICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1502 (20 U.S.C. 6492) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c);

(2) by striking in subsection (a) “(2) EVALUATION.—The Secretary” and inserting “(b) EVALUATION.—The Secretary” and by moving such subsection (b) 2 ems to the left;

(3) by striking in subsection (a) “Such projects shall include promising” and all that follows through “career guidance opportunities.”;

(4) by striking “student performance standards” and inserting “student achievement standards”;

(5) by inserting “academic” after “to meet challenging State”; and

(6) by striking “(a) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS” and all that follows through “IN GENERAL.—From the” and inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—From the”.

#### SEC. 153. ELLENDER-CLOSE UP FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM; DROPOUT REPORTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part E of title I (20 U.S.C. 6491 et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

##### “SEC. 1503. ELLENDER-CLOSE UP FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

“(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

“(1) It is a worthwhile goal to ensure that all students in America are prepared for responsible citizenship and that all students should have the opportunity to be involved in activities that promote and demonstrate good citizenship.

“(2) It is a worthwhile goal to ensure that America's educators have access to programs for the continued improvement of their professional skills.

“(3) Allen J. Ellender, a Senator from Louisiana and President pro tempore of the United States Senate, had a distinguished career in public service characterized by extraordinary energy and real concern for young people. Senator Ellender provided valuable support and encouragement to the Close Up Foundation, a

nonpartisan, nonprofit foundation promoting knowledge and understanding of the Federal Government among young people and educators. Therefore, it is a fitting and appropriate tribute to Senator Ellender to provide fellowships in his name to students of limited economic means and the teachers who work with such students, so that such students and teachers may participate in the programs supported by the Close Up Foundation.

“(4) The Close Up Foundation is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, education foundation promoting civic responsibility and knowledge and understanding of the Federal Government among young people and educators. The Congress has consistently supported the Close Up Foundation's work with disadvantaged young people and their educators through the Allen J. Ellender Fellowship Program. Therefore, it is fitting and appropriate to continue support under the successor Ellender-Close Up Fellowship Program to students of limited economic means and the teachers who work with such students, so that such students and teachers may participate in the programs supported by the Close Up Foundation.

“(b) PROGRAM FOR MIDDLE AND SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

“(A) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In accordance with this subsection, the Secretary may make grants to the Close Up Foundation of Washington, District of Columbia, a nonpartisan, nonprofit foundation, for the purpose of assisting the Close Up Foundation in carrying out its programs of increasing civic responsibility and understanding of the Federal Government among middle and secondary school students.

“(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants under this subsection shall be used only to provide financial assistance to economically disadvantaged students who participate in the program described in subparagraph (A). Financial assistance received pursuant to this subsection by such students shall be known as Ellender-Close Up fellowships.

“(2) APPLICATIONS.—

“(A) APPLICATION REQUIRED.—No grant under this subsection may be made except upon an application at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

“(B) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—Each application submitted under this paragraph shall contain provisions to assure—

“(i) that fellowship grants are made to economically disadvantaged middle and secondary school students;

“(ii) that every effort will be made to ensure the participation of students from rural and small town areas, as well as from urban areas, and that in awarding fellowships to economically disadvantaged students, special consideration will be given to the participation of students with special educational needs, including students with disabilities, ethnic minority students, recent immigrants, and gifted and talented students; and

“(iii) the proper disbursement of the funds received under this subsection.

“(c) PROGRAM FOR MIDDLE AND SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

“(A) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In accordance with this subsection, the Secretary may make grants to the Close Up Foundation of Washington, District of Columbia, a nonpartisan, nonprofit foundation, for the purpose of assisting the Close Up Foundation in carrying out its programs of professional development for middle and secondary school teachers and to promote greater civic understanding and responsibility among the students of such teachers.

“(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants under this subsection shall be used only for financial assistance to teachers who participate in the program described in subparagraph (A). Financial assistance received pursuant to this subpart by such

individuals shall be known as Ellender-Close Up fellowships.

“(2) APPLICATIONS.—

“(A) APPLICATION REQUIRED.—No grant under this subsection may be made except upon an application at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

“(B) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—Each application submitted under this paragraph shall contain provisions to assure—

“(i) that fellowship grants are made only to teachers who have worked with at least one student from such teacher's school who participates in the programs described in subsection (b);

“(ii) that no teacher in each school participating in the programs assisted under subsection (b) may receive more than one fellowship in any fiscal year; and

“(iii) the proper disbursement of the funds received under this subsection.

“(d) PROGRAMS FOR RECENT IMMIGRANTS AND STUDENTS OF MIGRANT PARENTS.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

“(A) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In accordance with this subsection, the Secretary may make grants to the Close Up Foundation of Washington, District of Columbia, a nonpartisan, nonprofit foundation, for the purpose of assisting the Close Up Foundation in carrying out its programs of increasing understanding of the Federal Government among economically disadvantaged recent immigrants and students of migrant parents.

“(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants under this subsection shall be used for financial assistance to economically disadvantaged older Americans, recent immigrants and students of migrant parents who participate in the program described in subsection (a). Financial assistance received pursuant to this subpart by such individuals shall be known as Ellender-Close Up fellowships.

“(2) APPLICATIONS.—

“(A) APPLICATION REQUIRED.—No grant under this subsection may be made except upon application at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

“(B) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—Each application submitted under this paragraph shall contain provisions—

“(i) to assure that fellowship grants are made to economically disadvantaged recent immigrants and students of migrant parents;

“(ii) to assure that every effort will be made to ensure the participation of recent immigrants and students of migrant parents from rural and small town areas, as well as from urban areas, and that in awarding fellowships, special consideration will be given to the participation of recent immigrants and students of migrant parents with special needs, including individuals with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and gifted and talented students;

“(iii) that fully describe the activities to be carried out with the proceeds of the grant; and

“(iv) to assure the proper disbursement of the funds received under this subsection.

“(e) GENERAL PROVISIONS.—

“(1) ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—

“(A) GENERAL RULE.—Payments under this section may be made in installments, in advance, or by way of reimbursement, with necessary adjustments on account of underpayment or overpayment.

“(B) AUDIT RULE.—The Comptroller General of the United States or any of the Comptroller General's duly authorized representatives shall have access for the purpose of audit and examination to any books, documents, papers, and records that are pertinent to any grant under this section.

“(f) LIMITATION.—Of the funds appropriated to carry out this section under section 1002, the Secretary may use not more than 30 percent to carry out subsection (c) of this section.